

when one organization such as the Sinclair Broadcast Group, accesses 24% of Americans, it becomes exceedingly tempting to try to push its own political agenda over those public airwaves. This is what Sinclair is trying to do to us this political season by requesting their stations to air "Stolen Honor" during prime time, rather than regular programming. We need fair broadcasting of all sides of an issue. If Sinclair is allowed to pre-empt regular programming to air a Kerry smear piece two weeks before the election to 24% of Americans, fairness is the last word that comes to mind!

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But when large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what one company wants or even one person owning the company wants and less of what we need for our democracy.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. Thank you.